

To: Township Board of Trustees

From: David Rohr

Date: October 3, 2023

RE: Chapter 14, Article 5, Manufactured Fertilizer Ordinance

HISTORY:

Hamburg Township is trying to reduce the nitrogen loading to the water bodies throughout the Township by reducing the use of fertilizers. Such practices of adding fertilizer to parcels abutting Hamburg Rivers, Lakes and Streams helps to increase the growth of the number and size of aquatic plants and weeds (native and invasive) in the bottom of water bodies, as well as feed natural occurring cyanobacteria (known as green algae) on the top of the water bodies. Once this overgrowth occurs, we have seen an increase in the flooding of our river systems as well as cyanobacteria causing health issues when it releases toxic chemical in drinking water, recreational sport water, and air quality near the lake when it dies back.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff suggests that the Township Board discuss and review Chapter 14 Manufactured Fertilizer Ordinance. If the Board should decide, a resolution may be made to pass the proposed ordinance amendment.

Example Approval Motion

The Township Board approves amending Chapter 14, Environment, to add Article V, Manufactured Fertilizers. This Ordinance amendment was discussed at the Hamburg Township Board of Trustees Meeting on October 3, 2023.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Chapter 14 Fertilizer Ordinance